

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐  
no ☐

Property Name: Ensor House Inventory Number: BA-2048

Address: 16947 York Road City: Monkton Zip Code: 21102

County: Baltimore USGS Topographic Map: Hereford, MD

Owner: Randolph H. Shelley and Yvonne E. Shelley

Tax Parcel Number: 172 Tax Map Number: 22 Tax Account ID Number:

Project: Hereford Tower Project Agency: FCC

Site visit by MHT Staff: ☒ no ☐ yes Name:  Date:

Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended ☒

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Is the property located within a historic district? ☒ no ☐ yes Name of district:

Is district listed? ☒ no ☐ yes Determined eligible? ☒ no ☐ yes District Inventory Number:

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MIHP form; Rotenstein 2000

**Description of Property and Eligibility Determination:** *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The Ensor House is a two-story wood frame building constructed on a masonry wall foundation. Measuring three bays by three bays, this Italianate house has a shed roof front porch and two interior brick chimneys. The building's shed roof is clad by standing seam metal and the building is clad by asbestos shingles. Decorative elements include a two-light transom above the front entry and a bracketed cornice pediment. There are several additions to the house, including a rear shed roof addition and side (north) addition. Also, there is a rear wood deck and wood stairs.

Although the MIHP form completed in 1980 suggests that this building was constructed between ca. 1825 and 1833, its form and stylistic elements suggest a later date: ca. 1850-1870. The house, during the 1870s, was used as a hotel by owner Nathan Ensor. During the twentieth century, the building was converted into retail shops and services. In 1980, it housed a barbershop. Currently occupants include a restaurant and construction contractors. This property does not retain its architectural integrity and does not appear to be related to any significant individuals or events in Hereford's history. This property appears to be not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Prepared by: David S. Rotenstein

Date Prepared: 09/07/2000

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended <input type="checkbox"/>	Eligibility not recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments: <u></u>	
<u></u>	
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services <u>[Signature]</u>	Date <u>11/16/2001</u>
Reviewer, NR program <u>[Signature]</u>	Date <u>6/21/01</u>



## 7. Description

Inventory No. BA-2048

### Condition

☐ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☒ altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Ensor House is a two-story wood frame building constructed on a masonry wall foundation. Measuring three bays by three bays, this Italianate house has a shed roof front porch and two interior brick chimneys. The building's shed roof is clad by standing seam metal and the building is clad by asbestos shingles. Decorative elements include a two-light transom above the front entry and a bracketed cornice pediment. There are several additions to the house, including a rear shed roof addition and side (north) addition. Also, there is a rear wood deck and wood stairs.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-2048

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates      ca. 1825-1950      Architect

Construction dates      1825-1833      Builder

Evaluation for:

☒ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☐ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

Although the MIHP form completed in 1980 suggests that this building was constructed between ca. 1825 and 1833, its form and stylistic elements suggest a later date: ca. 1850-1870. The house, during the 1870s, was used as a hotel by owner Nathan Ensor. During the twentieth century, the building was converted into retail shops and services. In 1980, it housed a barbershop. Currently occupants include a restaurant and construction contractors. This property does not retain its architectural integrity and does not appear to be related to any significant individuals or events in Hereford's history. This property appears to be not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-2048

Name Ensor House

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

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### HISTORIC CONTEXT

#### MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Historic Period Theme(s):

Resource Type:

Category:

Historic Environment

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Known Design Source:

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-2048

Baltimore County Council (1991); Brooks, N. A., and E. G. Rockel (1979); Clemens and Clemens (1983); McGrain (1980)

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	<u>13,987 sq. ft.</u>		
Acreage of historical setting	<u>13,987 sq. ft.</u>		
Quadrangle name	<u>Hereford, MD</u>	Quadrangle scale	<u>1:24,000</u>

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries for this property conform to the tax parcel boundary: Map 22, Parcel 172.

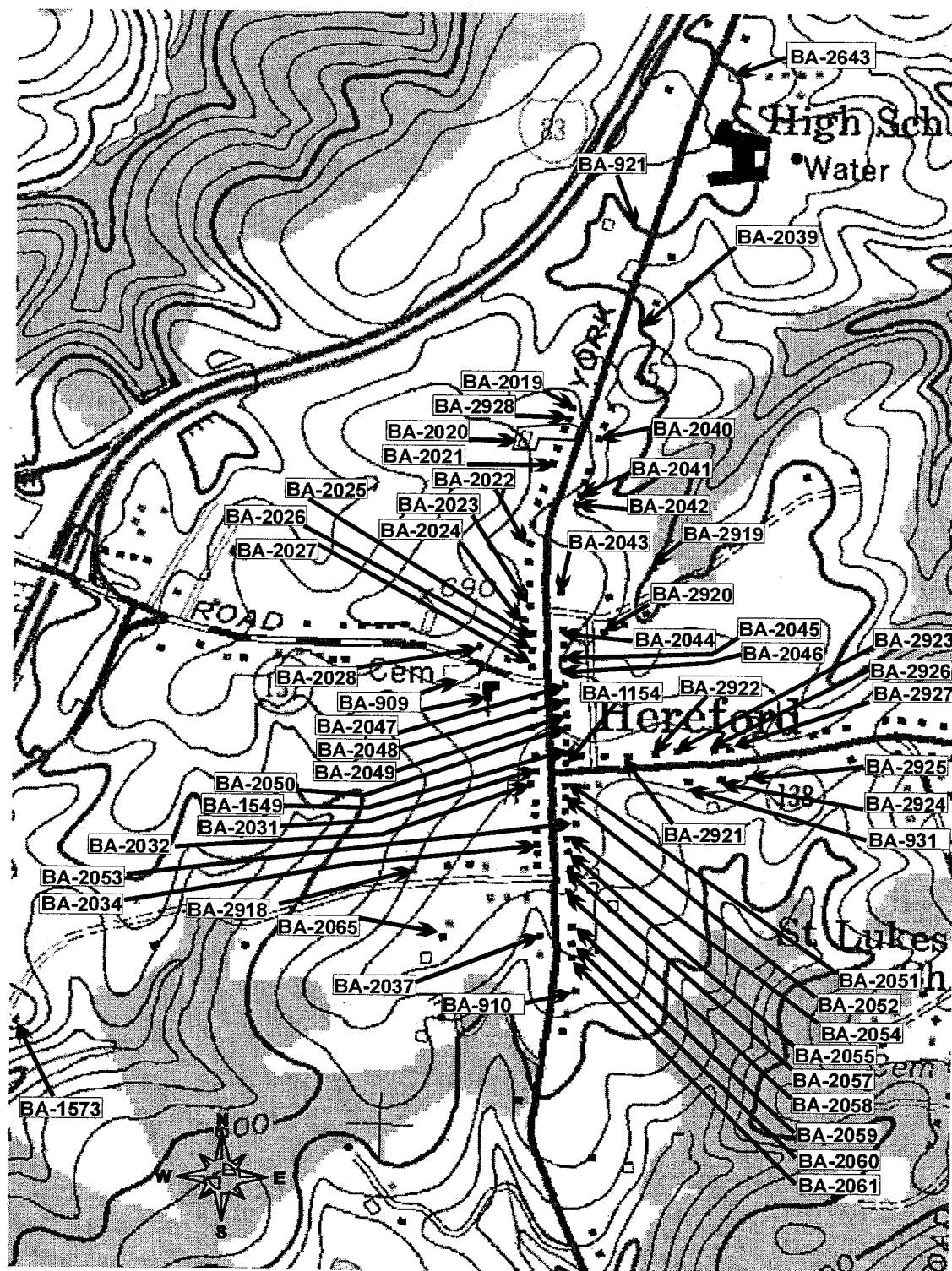
## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	David S. Rotenstein, Ph.D./Historian		
organization	URS/Dames & Moore	date	09/07/2000
street and number	7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 700	telephone	301-652-221
city or town	Bethesda	state MD	zipcode 20814-4870

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville MD 21032  
410-514-7600





16947

HELLEN



BA-2048

1/2

Ensor House

Costa Barbershop

16947 York Road

Baltimore County Maryland

David S. Rotenstein

8/22/00

MD SHPO

View of the Ensor House, to the  
northeast.

044 NNNNN 09.06.00 09.06.00



BA-2048

2/2

Ensor House

Costa Barbershop

16947 York Road

Baltimore County, Maryland

David S. Rotenstein

8/22/2000

MD SHPO

View of the rear of the Ensor House,  
to the northwest.

BA 2048

ENSOR HOUSE/ COSTA BARBERSHOP

1825-1833

HEREFORD

PRIVATE

The Costa-Dwelling and barbershop stands on a lot that has been a consistent 14,000-square-foot size since Solomon Foster sold to Marahb H. Foster in 1837 for \$300, a price that would have permitted a modest town house. This seems to be one of the houses marked on the 1850 map by J.C. Sidney. Nathan G. Ensor bought it in 1867, and appears in the 1877 atlas; the 1878 state directory listed him as a hotel keeper. A substantial dwelling house was advertised that year when Ensor was in financial difficulties. It later belonged to Arthur S. Carman, a tinner. John Costa, a barber, acquired it in 1940. This is a flat-roofed, Victorian Italianate commercial building of two stories, with bright green composition shingles, an elaborate entablature, including Italianate bracketing. If this house existed in 1833 or before, it was probably been much improved from its original state before becoming a hotel.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC ENSOR HOUSE

0320485411

AND/OR COMMON

Costa Barbershop

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

16,947 York Road

CITY, TOWN

Hereford

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2nd

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore County

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

\_\_\_DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

\_\_\_STRUCTURE

\_\_\_SITE

\_\_\_OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

\_\_\_PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

\_\_\_BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

\_\_\_IN PROCESS

\_\_\_BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

☒ OCCUPIED

\_\_\_UNOCCUPIED

\_\_\_WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

\_\_\_YES: UNRESTRICTED

\_\_\_NO

**PRESENT USE**

\_\_\_AGRICULTURE

☒ COMMERCIAL

\_\_\_EDUCATIONAL

\_\_\_ENTERTAINMENT

\_\_\_GOVERNMENT

\_\_\_INDUSTRIAL

\_\_\_MILITARY

\_\_\_MUSEUM

\_\_\_PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

\_\_\_RELIGIOUS

\_\_\_SCIENTIFIC

\_\_\_TRANSPORTATION

\_\_\_OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME John Costa

Telephone #: 357-5284

STREET & NUMBER

16,947 York Road

CITY, TOWN

Monkton

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21111

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

County Courts Building

Liber #: 1088

Folio #: 301

STREET & NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

NONE

DATE

\_\_\_FEDERAL \_\_\_STATE \_\_\_COUNTY \_\_\_LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED (?)  
☐ ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Ensor-Costa House or Shop is an L-shaped, two-story, flat-roofed Italianate-Victorian commercial building designed to provide dwelling space on the second floor. This structure may be a house of c. 1825, heavily reworked in Victorian style, or it may be a replacement structure built new about 1870. It consists of a two-story main block three bays wide, a two-story rear wing, and a one-story, north wing containing the barber shop.

The main block is three bays wide, two bays deep on the south, four bays deep on the north. There is a full-width front porch, shed-roofed, supported by four square posts and two recessed posts, each decorated at the top with scroll brackets. The porch has a plain architrave, a cornice, and Italianate bracketing. The deck is three steps above grade. The space under the deck is screened by concrete block in-fill. The posts rest on stone piers. Porch railing is wrought iron, of severe contemporary design.

The dwelling entrance is in the middle door, which is provided with a large, one-sheet glass light; there is also a protective screen and storm door of aluminum, recent vintage. The windows on either side are floor-to-ceiling types of 4-over-4 double-hung sash types, flanked by decorative shutters of vertically aligned board.

The three upper windows of the main block are 2-over-1 double-hung sash types.

The house is topped by a decorative architrave, cornice, and heavy Italianate bracketing, which also continues around on both sidewalls for their entire depth.

The long leg of the "L" is four bays deep, all available positions filled with windows similar to the others. The short side of the "L" is two bays deep, all four possible positions filled with typical windows; the two windows at first-story south level are fitted with aluminum awnings. In the inner angle between the legs of the "L", there is a one-story, shed-roofed, enclosed porch formed with contemporary aluminum frame windows and a side door.

The entire house is covered with green composition shingles. The shed-roofed, one-room barber shop is tacked on the north end of the house, flush with the front wall. It is two bays on the street facade. The entrance is a gable-roofed vestibule with a 1-over-1 sash window facing

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

(continued)

the street. The window is flanked by traditional lighted barber poles mounted on brackets; the door faces the south. The main window of the shop is a very long plate glass window in a heavy wooden frame. The street facade has an architrave, cornice, and brackets similar to the main block. The wing stands on a stone foundation. The main foundation is quite low, of stone, heavily coated with paint.

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1825-1833

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Costa House stands on a lot that has been consistently recorded as 14,000 square feet on the eastside of York Road since Solomon Foster sold it to Marab H. Foster in 1837 for \$300. The price should have been permitted a modest house for those times. (1)

In 1851, William Hurst and his wife, Marab Hurst, sold to William Johnson for \$223. (2) Johnson's name appears on or near this property on the 1850 map by J. C. Sidney. Johnson sold a few months later to Ephraim Cox for \$450. (3) None of these owners can be found in assessment books of 1833, 1841, or 1852.

This property was in the hands of Francis M. and Almira Hawkins in 1867 when they sold to Nathan G. Ensor for \$550. (4) Ensor mortgaged the property and it was shown as his in the 1877 atlas. The 1878 State directory listed N. G. Ensor as a hotel keeper at Hereford. (5) In March of 1878, Ensor's interest in the 14,000 square-foot-lot was sold at public auction; the only description in the advertisement stated that the ground was "Improved by a comfortable and substantial DWELLING HOUSE." (6) There was no mention of a hotel in the 1876 tax ledger. (7)

John T. Mays bought the place at auction. (8) In 1881, Sarah E. Carman bought the house. (9) The 1896 tax ledger charged the house to A. Arthur S. Carnen (sic) and the 1878 State directory had shown A. S. Carman as a tinner. (10)

Mrs. Carman sold in 1914 to Laura T. Howard. (11) The 1918 tax ledger showed William E. Howard with a lot adjoining Charles E. Lloyd on the north (which checks out with the adjoining Store Lot). Howard owned:

Dwelling	20 x 20	1 story	
	18 x 32	16 x 16 - 2 stories	\$1164
1 Outbuilding			200
			<u>\$1515.</u> (12)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

(continued)



Mrs. Howard conveyed to George N. Howard in 1919, and George Howard and wife conveyed to George A. Bull in 1923. (13) The Bulls conveyed to John E. and Ada Foster in 1926 and the place passed to W. Delamere Akehurst and wife in 1931 and to the present owner, John Costa, in 1940.

Mr. Costa operates Johnny's Barber Shop on the ground floor. There has apparently been a valuable house on this lot since some point between 1823 and 1825, but the Italianate style of the structure raises the question of whether an entirely new building replaced the 1825 structure during the Victorian era. This is very likely the "comfortable and substantial dwelling house" lost through default by Nathan G. Ensor in 1878. None of the tax lists contain the clue needed to prove that Ensor's flat-roofed "town house" replaced any more rural structure of early Hereford.

## NOTES:

1. Baltimore City Deeds, TK 278:280.
2. Baltimore City Deeds, AWB 468:384.
3. Baltimore City Deeds, AWB 468:368.
4. Baltimore County Deeds, JB 86:246.
5. Frank Lewis & Co., Maryland Directory (Baltimore, 1878), p. 530.
6. Maryland Journal, Towson, March 16, 1878, p. 4.
7. Assessor's Field Book, District 7, 1876, n.p.
8. B.C. Deeds, WMI 147:152.
9. B.C. Deeds, WMI 146:261.
10. Tax Ledger, District 7, 1896, Entry #133-26.
11. B.C. Deeds, WPC 433:537.
12. Tax Ledger, District 7, 1818, f. 567.
13. B.C. Deeds, WPC 567:304.

BA- 2048

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

ENSOR HOUSE

Baltimore County Deed Books and Tax Lists.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 14,000 sq. feet**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Rectangular parcel fronting 70 feet on eastside of York Road with even depth of 200 feet.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE NONE

COUNTY NONE

STATE

NONE

COUNTY

NONE

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

John W. McGrain, Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Baltimore County Office of Planning & Zoning

DATE

March 14, 1980

STREET &amp; NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

TELEPHONE

494-3495

CITY OR TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

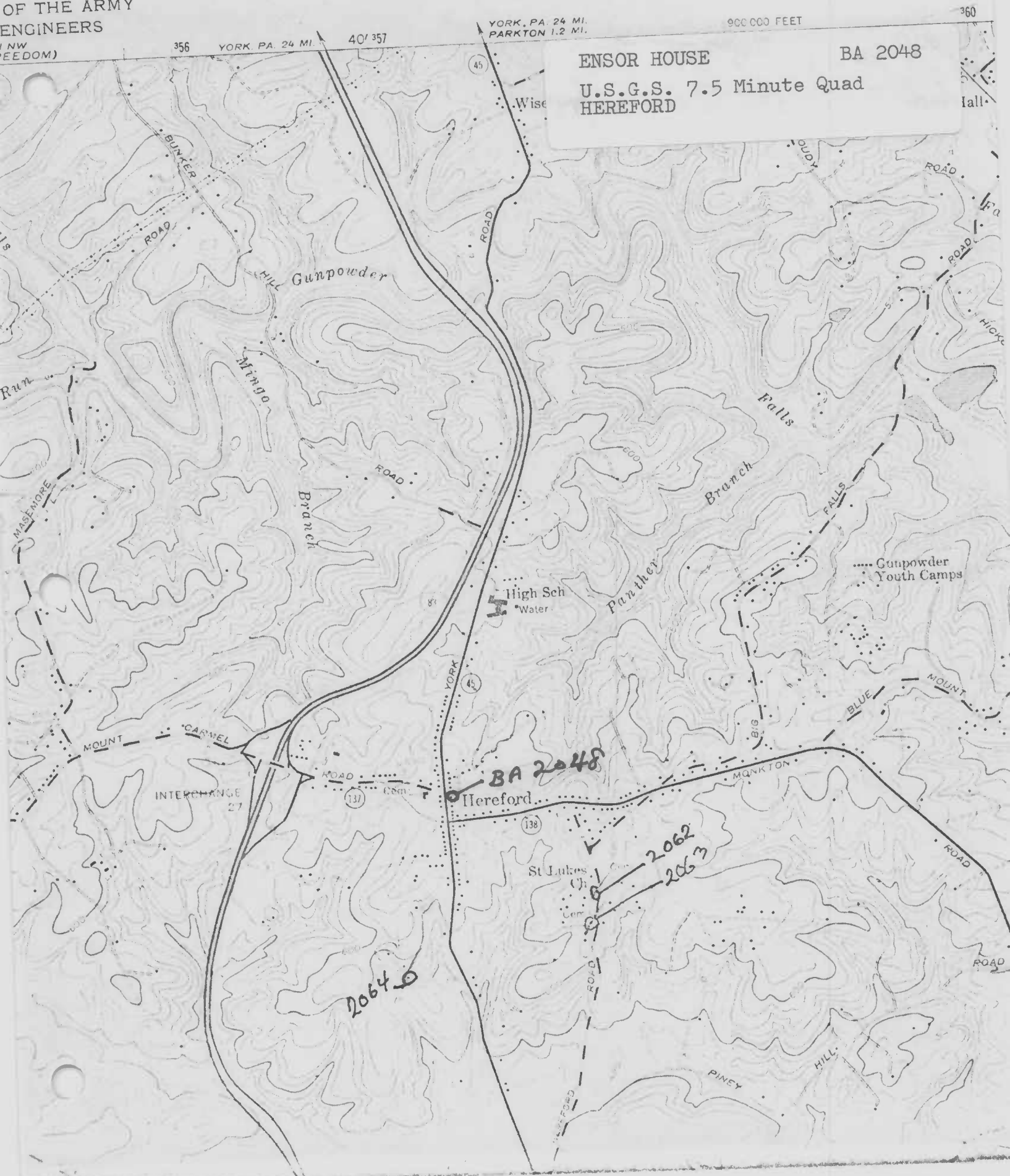
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

STATES  
OF THE ARMY  
ENGINEERS  
(NW  
EEDOM)

HEREFORD QUADRAN  
MARYLAND-BALTIMORE  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOG





ENSOR HOUSE (COSTA BARBER SHOP)  
Balto. Co., Md. BA 2048  
J. McGrain, Oct 1979  
Neg. located at MHT  
Main (west) facade & north wing



ENSOR HOUSE (COSTA BARBER SHOP)  
Balto. Co., Md. BA 2048  
J. McGrain, OCT 1979  
Neg. located at MHT  
South facade & main (W) facade





ENSOR HOUSE (COSTA BARBER SHOP)  
Balto. Co., Md. BA 2048  
J. McGrain, OCT 1979  
Neg. located at MHT  
Cornice & SW corner of bldg